

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: David Murray BANKS, et al.) RE: Preliminary Amendment  
   )  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned               )  
   ) Our Ref: B-5182 621126-9  
Filed: Concurrently herewith               )  
   )  
For: "IDENTIFYING UNCORRECTABLE           )  
CODEWORDS IN A REED-SOLOMON DECODER       )  
FOR ERRORS AND ERASURES"                   ) Date: July 30, 2003

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. patent application, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the prosecution history of the above-identified U.S. patent application without prejudice or disclaimer.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.